



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 7, 2000

### **S. 397** **National Materials Corridor and U.S.-Mexico Border Technology Partnership Act of 1999**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
on February 10, 2000*

#### **SUMMARY**

S. 397 would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million a year over the 2000-2004 period to the Department of Energy (DOE) for research and development activities related to hazardous waste and materials technology, with the goal of alleviating public health and environmental problems on the United States-Mexico border. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that the bill would result in additional discretionary spending of \$50 million over the 2000-2005 period. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 397 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would benefit state, local, and tribal governments.

DOE would be required to enter into agreements with several other federal agencies that would assist in identifying and implementing projects that meet the criteria of the bill. Funds authorized to be appropriated by this bill could be transferred from DOE to participating agencies. DOE also would be required to establish an advisory committee to work with the federal agencies.

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

For the purpose of this estimate, CBO assumes that the amount authorized to be appropriated in 2000 will be available by the middle of the year. We assume that the authorized amounts for future years will be appropriated by the start of each fiscal year and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for similar programs. The estimated budgetary impact of S. 397 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 270 (energy), 250 (general science, space, and technology), 300 (natural resources and environment), 370 (advancement of commerce), and 150 (international affairs).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Authorization Level	10	10	10	10	10	0
Estimated Outlays	3	13	10	10	10	4

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

#### **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 397 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. It would benefit state and local governments by making \$50 million in grants available over the 2000-2004 period for technology deployment, research, and training activities attempting to alleviate environmental and health problems along the United States-Mexico border. Grant recipients would be required to provide 50 percent of the cost of projects funded by those grants, except for training, which could be 100 percent federally funded.

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